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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: T.W. Bish et al. Examiner: Mohammad Ali
Serial No.: 09/436,506 Group Art Unit: 2177
Filed: November 9, 1999 Docket No.: TU999036
TITLE: METHOD, SYSTEM, AND PROGRAM FOR ACCESSING DATA FROM
STORAGE SYSTEMS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 15, 2003.

David W. Victor

AMENDMENT

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MAY 22 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Technology Center 2100

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is submitted in response to the non-final Office Action dated January 15, 2003, in which the Examiner rejected claims 1-27 as obvious (35 U.S.C. §103) in view of cited prior art. Applicants have amended certain claims and traverse the prior art rejections for the reasons discussed herein with respect to the amended claims.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9.

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